

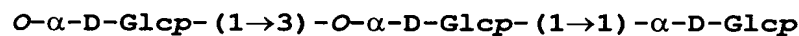
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

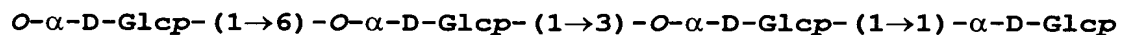
1. (Original) An 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose which has an α -glucosyl α,α -trehalose structure, represented by the chemical formula 1, intermolecularly.

Chemical formula 1:



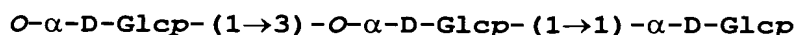
2. (Original) The 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of claim 1, wherein said 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose is 3-isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 2.

Chemical formula 2:



3. (Original) The 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of claim 1, wherein said 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose is 3- α -glucosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 3.

Chemical formula 3:



4. (Currently Amended) A method for forming 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1,

which comprises a step of allowing α -isomaltosyl-transferring enzyme to act on an aqueous solution comprising α,α -trehalose and a saccharide having a glucose polymerization degree of 3 or higher and bearing both the α -1,6 glucosidic linkage as a linkage at the non-reducing end and the α -1,4 glucosidic linkage other than the linkage at the non-reducing end.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said saccharide is prepared by allowing α -isomaltosylglucosaccharide-forming enzyme to act on partial starch hydrolyzates.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~or 5~~, which further comprises a step of allowing glucoamylase to act on the reaction mixture.

7. (Original) A method of forming α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose, which comprises the step of allowing a saccharide-transferring enzyme to act on an aqueous solution comprising 3- α -isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 2 and/or 3- α -glucosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 3 and optional other saccharides to form said α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of claim 1.

8. (Original) A process for producing 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of claim 2, which comprises the steps of:

allowing α -isomaltosyl-transferring enzyme to act on an aqueous solution comprising α,α -trehalose and a saccharide having a glucose polymerization degree of 3 or higher and bearing both the α -1,6 glucosidic linkage as a linkage at the non-reducing end and the α -1,4 glucosidic linkage other than the linkage at the non-reducing end to form 3- α -isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 2; and

collecting the resulting 3- α -isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose.

9. (Original) The process of claim 8, wherein said saccharide is prepared by allowing α -isomaltosylglucosaccharide-forming enzyme to act on starchy substances.

10. (Original) A process for producing 3- α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of claim 3, which comprises the steps of:

allowing α -isomaltosyl-transferring enzyme to act on an aqueous solution comprising α,α -trehalose and a saccharide having a glucose polymerization degree of 3 or higher and bearing both the α -1,6 glucosidic linkage as a linkage at the non-reducing end and the α -1,4 glucosidic linkage other than the linkage at the non-reducing end to form

3- α -isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 2;

successively allowing glucoamylase to act on the resulting 3- α -isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose to form 3- α -glucosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 3; and

collecting the resulting 3- α -glucosyl α,α -trehalose.

11. (Original) A process for producing α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose, which comprises the step of:

allowing a saccharide-transferring enzyme to act on an aqueous solution comprising 3- α -isomaltosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 2 and/or 3- α -glucosyl α,α -trehalose represented by the chemical formula 3 and optional other saccharides to form α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of claim 1; and

collecting the resulting α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A composition which comprises α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 13, where one or more ingredients selected from the group consisting of other non-reducing saccharides, reducing saccharides, sugar alcohols, and minerals are incorporated

into said α -glycosyl α,α -trehalose ~~of any one of claims 1 to 3.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 13 ~~or 14~~, which is in the form of a product for oral use, food and beverage, cosmetic, or pharmaceutical.